



AG UPDATE

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Released: August 1, 2006

Vol. 26 No. 15

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Cattle and Calves, United States, July 1, 2004-2006

Class	2004	2005	2006
	1,000 Head		
All Cattle and Calves	103,400	104,500	105,700
All Cows	42,400	42,800	43,000
Beef Cows.....	33,400	33,750	33,850
Milk Cows	9,000	9,050	9,150
Heifers 500 lbs. and Over	15,950	16,200	16,500
Beef Cow Replacement.....	4,800	5,000	5,000
Milk Cow Replacement	3,600	3,700	3,800
Other Heifers.....	7,550	7,500	7,700
Steers 500 lbs. and Over	14,200	14,400	14,900
Bulls 500 lbs. and Over.....	2,050	2,100	2,100
Calves Under 500 lbs.....	28,800	29,000	29,200
Calf Crop ^{1/}	37,505	37,780	37,900

CATTLE INVENTORY JULY 1, 2006

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of July 1, 2006, totaled 105.7 million head, 1 percent above the 104.5 million on July 1, 2005 and 2 percent above the 103.4 million two years ago. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 43.0 million, were up slightly from the 42.8 million on July 1, 2005 and 1 percent above the 42.4 million two years ago. Beef cows, at 33.9 million, were up slightly from July 1, 2005 and up 1 percent from two years ago. Milk cows, at 9.15 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2005 and up 2 percent from two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2006 and the changes from July 1, 2005, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, up 2 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.0 million, unchanged.
- Milk replacement heifers, 3.8 million, up 3 percent.
- Other heifers, 7.7 million, up 3 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.9 million, up 3 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 29.2 million, up 1 percent.
- All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 12.5 million, up 4 percent.

The 2006 calf crop is expected to be 37.9 million, up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.6 million, up 1 percent from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004.

^{1/} For the current year, the calf crop is the number of calves born before July 1 plus the number expected to be born on and after July 1.

CATTLE ON FEED JULY 1, 2006

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in **Colorado** feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 980,000 head as of July 1, 2006. The latest inventory was down 5 percent from June 1, 2006, but up 9 percent from the 900,000 on feed on July 1, 2005. The inventory included 650,000 steers and steer calves, up 17 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 320,000 head, was down 6 percent from the previous year. The number of cows and bulls totaled 10,000, up 5,000 from last year. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 215,000 head of fed cattle during June 2006. This was 16 percent above May 2006 marketings of 185,000 head and 13 percent above a year ago. An estimated 175,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during June, 35 percent above a year ago but no change from May 2006 placements. Of the number placed in June, 29 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 20 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 31 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 20 percent weighed 800 pounds or greater. Other disappearance during June 2006, at 10,000 head, was down 50 percent from May but unchanged from June 2005.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.9 million head on July 1, 2006. The inventory was 5 percent above July 1, 2005 and 7 percent above July 1, 2004. This is the second highest July 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.09 million steers and

AGRICULTURAL PRICES JULY 31, 2006

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in July, at 117 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from June. The Crop Index is down 3 points (2.4 percent) while the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, broilers, asparagus, and snap beans. Lower prices were received for grapes, cantaloupes, hogs, and broccoli. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of grapes, wheat, tomatoes, and hay offset decreased marketings of milk, cantaloupes, potatoes, and asparagus.

The July **All Crop Index**, at 123 is down 2.4 from last month and down 7.0 percent from July 2005. The July all wheat price at \$4.09 per bushel, is up 8 cents from June and up 89 cents from July 2005. The corn price, at \$2.20 per bushel, is up 6 cents from last month but 9 cents below July 2005. The all hay price, at \$107 per ton, is \$2.00 below June but up \$7.30 from last July. The soybean price, at \$5.60 per bushel, decreased 1 cent from June but is \$1.05 below July 2005.

The July **Livestock and Product Index**, at 110, is unchanged from last month but down 6.0 percent from July 2005. The July hog price, at \$49.40 per cwt, is down \$4.40 cents from June and 40 cents lower than a year ago. The July beef cattle price of \$86.10 is up \$1.90 from last month and \$1.10 higher than July 2005. The July all milk price of \$11.90 per cwt is unchanged from last month but down \$2.90 from July 2005.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2005		2006	
	June	July	June	July
	Percent			
Prices Received	119	116	117	117
Prices Paid	140	141	147	148
Ratio 1/	84	82	80	79

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

Compared with July 2005, all **Colorado** crop prices averaged higher except dry beans. All livestock prices averaged higher except for cows and milk. Mid-July 2006 wheat, at \$4.58 per bushel, increased 38 cents from the previous month and was \$1.52 above July a year ago. Corn prices increased 6 cents from June to \$2.50 per bushel but averaged 22 cents below July 2005. The mid-July potato price was 1.45 cents higher than last month at \$9.65 per cwt, and \$4.90 per cwt higher than July a year ago. The dry bean average price, at \$17.40 per cwt, increased 10 cents from last month but was \$12.70 per cwt lower than July a year ago. Alfalfa hay averaged \$135.00 per ton, \$15.00 higher than June and up \$36.00 from July 2005. Other hay at, \$130.00 per ton, was up \$15.00 from last month and \$43.00 from July a year ago. The mid-July steer and heifer price increased \$7.00 from last month to \$111.00 per cwt and averaged \$3.00 above the \$108.00 per cwt a year ago. Cow prices were down \$1.30 from last month to \$47.10 per cwt and were \$5.50 per cwt lower than July

2005. Calf prices, at \$140.00 per cwt, were \$9.00 above last month and \$4.00 higher than the \$136.00 per cwt received a year ago. Milk sold to plants, at \$12.10 per cwt, averaged 10 cents above last month but was \$2.60 below July 2005.

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		July 2005	June 2006	July 2006
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat.....	Bu.	3.06	4.20	4.58
Corn.....	Bu.	2.28	2.44	2.50
Barley (All).....	Bu.	2/	2/	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	4.75	8.20	9.65
Dry edible beans	Cwt	30.10	17.30	17.40
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	99.00	120.00	135.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	87.00	115.00	130.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	107.00	103.00	110.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	108.00	104.00	111.00
Cows.....	Cwt	52.60	48.40	47.10
Calves	Cwt	136.00	131.00	140.00
Sheep	Cwt	37.90	31.00	3/
Lambs	Cwt	117.00	97.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.70	12.00	12.10
United States				
Dollars				
Wheat.....	Bu.	3.20	4.01	4.09
Corn.....	Bu.	2.11	2.14	2.20
Soybeans.....	Bu.	6.65	5.61	5.60
Barley (All).....	Bu.	2.37	2.78	2.46
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	1.88	2.08	2.01
Sorghum	Cwt	3.94	3.95	4.43
Potatoes	Cwt	7.63	8.60	8.78
Dry edible beans	Cwt	25.40	18.90	19.50
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	109.00	115.00	113.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	75.90	90.10	89.30
Onions	Cwt	14.00	17.10	19.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	85.00	84.20	86.10
Steers & heifers	Cwt	88.20	88.50	90.40
Cows.....	Cwt	53.80	46.70	47.00
Calves	Cwt	133.00	133.00	136.00
Sheep	Cwt	41.00	28.60	3/
Lambs	Cwt	110.00	92.00	3/
Hogs.....	Cwt	49.80	53.80	49.40
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.80	11.90	11.90
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.440	0.390	0.400

1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments.

2/ Insufficient data to establish price. 3/ Not Published

CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION - JUNE 2006

Laying flocks in **Colorado** produced 90 million eggs during June 2006, up 5 percent from 86 million eggs produced June 2005. The number of layers averaged 3.73 million during June of this year, down 1 percent from 3.77 million for June 2005. The June 2006 egg production per 100 layers was 2,416 up 6 percent from 2,284 eggs per 100 layers in June 2005.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.38 billion during June 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.33 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 991 million were broiler-type and 66 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during June 2006 averaged 342 million, up 1 percent from last year. June egg production per 100 layers was 2,159 eggs, down slightly from June 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on July 1, 2006, totaled 341 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 341 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.82 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on July 1, 2006, averaged 72.7 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from July 1, 2005.

COLD STORAGE JUNE 30, 2006

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on June 30, 2006 were greater than year earlier levels for beef, butter, chicken, eggs, and cheese. Butter stocks were down 1 percent from last month, but up 27 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 6 percent from last month, but up 2 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 14 percent from last month and down 17 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 19 percent from last month and down 26 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on June 30, 2006 were up 4 percent from the previous month and up 8 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 1 percent from the previous month and up 13 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 8 percent from last month, but down slightly from June 30, 2005.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	June 30, 2005	May 31, 2006	June 30, 2006
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	179,648	229,887	228,555
Cheese, total natural.....	823,444	846,260	863,852
Eggs, frozen	19,681	21,017	22,133
Poultry, total frozen	1,199,617	1,247,606	1,293,510
Chicken.....	690,840	773,099	782,004
Turkey.....	506,302	466,579	505,384
Fruits, frozen.....	765,766	740,290	847,993
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,812,522	1,460,961	1,388,663
Vegetables, total frozen	1,515,635	1,369,674	1,433,024
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,190,464	1,105,186	1,103,379
Meats, total red	851,659	926,210	866,925
Beef, total frozen.....	342,106	434,552	438,285
Pork, total frozen.....	492,494	473,317	408,722

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Food stocks are excluded for places where entire inventories are turned over more than once a month.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at:

<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Aug. 11 - Crop Production
- Aug. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Aug. 16 - Mushrooms
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